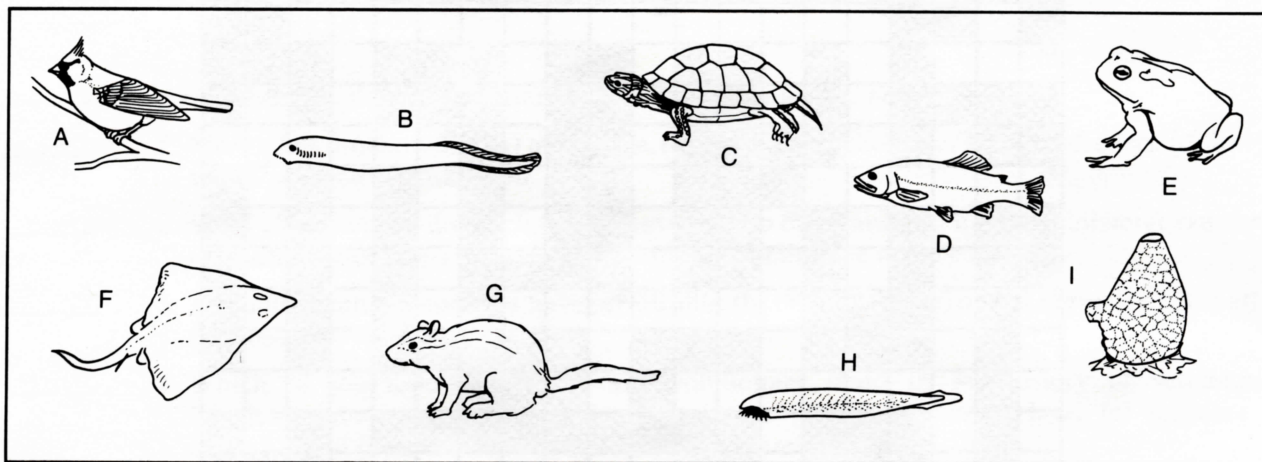


8. CLASSIFICATION OF CHORDATES

Textbook reference: Sections 31-2, 31-4

Chordates are among the most complex animals. At some time in their life cycle, all chordates have a notochord, a dorsal nerve cord, and gill slits. However, the chordates are an extremely diverse group. They are divided into three subphyla. Study the illustrations below. Then, complete the following classification key by writing the letter and the name of the subphylum or class.



1a. Adults lack dorsal nerve cord.

1b. Adults have dorsal nerve cord.

2a. Adults have notochord.

2b. Notochord replaced by vertebrae during embryonic development.

3a. Lack jaws.

3b. Have jaws.

4a. Nurse young on milk; have fur.

4b. Do not nurse young on milk; lack fur.

5a. Adults have skeletons made of cartilage.

5b. Adults have skeletons made of bone.

6a. Have feathers; are adapted for flight.

6b. Lack feathers; are not adapted for flight.

7a. All members are fully aquatic.

7b. Most members are not fully aquatic.

8a. Lay eggs on land; most are terrestrial.

8b. Lay eggs in water; most are aquatic as larvae and terrestrial as adults.

Go to 2.

Go to 3.

Go to 4.

Go to 5.

Go to 6.

Go to 7.

Go to 8.